U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER

None

## MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

## **United States Patent Application**

## COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

are named below) of the subjective Capture of The specification of which	ect matter wh	ich is claime	d and for wh	nich a patent is sou		a joint inventor (if pluration entitled: <b>Methods</b>	
a. a is attached hereto b. was filed on as a described and claimed in inter solicit a United States patent.	application se mational no.	rial no. filed		mended on amended on		n the case of a PCT-file h I have reviewed and	
I hereby state that I have revie any amendment referred to ab		erstand the c	ontents of th	ne above-identifie	d specification, in	acluding the claims, as	amended by
I hereby claim foreign priority certificate listed below and has that of the application on the late. In a such applications has been such applications have	we also ident basis of which we been filed	ified below and priority is o	ny foreign a				
	FOREIGN AP	PLICATION(S	6), IF ANY, CL	AIMING PRIORIT	Y UNDER 35 USC §	119	
COUNTRY	APPLI	CATION NUM	IBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	;	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)	
ALL	FOREIGN API	LICATION(S)	, IF ANY, FIL	ED BEFORE THE I	PRIORITY APPLIC	ATION(S)	
COUNTRY		CATION NUM		DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)		DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)	
I hereby claim the benefit und below and, insofar as the subj manner provided by the first p defined in Title 37, Code of F or PCT international filing da For Continuation-in-Part (CII	ect matter of paragraph of ederal Regul te of this app	each of the of title 35, Unitions, § 1.50 lication.	claims of this ted States Co	s application is no ode, § 112, I ackn	t disclosed in the nowledge the duty	prior United States app to disclose material in	plication in the formation as
U.S. APPLICATION NUM	MBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)		STATUS	STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)		
None							
I hereby claim the benefit und	ler Title 35, U	Jnited States	Code § 119	(e) of any United	States provisional	l application(s) listed b	elow:

DATE OF FILING (Day, Month, Year)

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 (reprinted below):

## § 1.56 Duty to disclose inf rmati n material to patentability.

- (a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:
  - (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- (b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
  - (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim;

or

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- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
  - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
  - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
  - (1) Each inventor named in the application:
  - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.
- (e) In any continuation-in-part application, the duty under this section includes the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to the person to be material to patentability, as defined in paragraph (b) of this section, which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

o - **€** ≥

Ali, M. Jeffer	Reg. No. 46,359		
Altera, Allan G.	Reg. No. 40,274	Leonard, Christopher J.	Reg. No. 41,940
Anderson, Gregg I.	Reg. No. 28,828	Liepa, Mara E.	Reg. No. 40,066
Batzli, Brian H.	Reg. No. 32,960	Lindquist, Timothy A.	Reg. No. 40,701
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Berns, John M.	Reg. No. 43,496	McIntyre, Jr., William F.	Reg. No. 44,921
Blackburn, Murrell W.	Reg. No. 50,881	Mueller, Douglas P.	Reg. No. 30,300
Bortolotti, Rebecca	Reg. No. 51,488	Nelson, Anna M.	Reg. No. 48,935
Branch, John W.	Reg. No. 41,633	Parsons, Nancy J.	Reg. No. 40,364
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Clifford, John A.	Reg. No. 30,247	Reich, John C.	Reg. No. 37,703
Cook, Jeffrey	Reg. No. 48,649	Reiland, Earl D.	Reg. No. 25,767
Daignault, Ronald A.	Reg. No. 25,968	Rieth, Damon A.	Reg. No. 52,167
Daley, Dennis R.	Reg. No. 34,994	Schmaltz, David G.	Reg. No. 39,828
Daulton, Julie R.	Reg. No. 36,414	Schuman, Mark D.	Reg. No. 31,197
Delgado, Marcus	Reg. No. 38,122	Schumann, Michael D.	Reg. No. 30,422
DeVries Smith, Katherine M.	Reg. No. 42,157	Scull, Timothy B.	Reg. No. 42,137
DiPietro, Mark J.	Reg. No. 28,707	Sebald, Gregory A.	Reg. No. 33,280
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Gould, John D.	Reg. No. 18,223	Underhill, Albert L.	Reg. No. 27,403
Gregson, Richard	Reg. No. 41,804	Vandenburgh, J. Derek	Reg. No. 32,179
Gresens, John J.	Reg. No. 33,112	Vidovich, Kristin K.	Reg. No. 41,448
Hamer, Samuel A.	Reg. No. 46,754	Wahl, John R.	Reg. No. 33,044
Hamre, Curtis B.	Reg. No. 29,165	Welter, Paul A.	Reg. No. 20,890
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Holzer, Jr., Richard J.	Reg. No. 42,668	Williams, Douglas J.	Reg. No. 27,054
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Jardine, John S.	Reg. No. 48,835	Wong, Thomas S.	Reg. No. 48,577
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Kadievitch, Natalie D.	Reg. No. 34,196	Zeuli, Anthony R.	Reg. No. 45,255
Kalinsky, Robert A.	Reg. No. 50,471		
Kettelberger, Denise	Reg. No. 33,924		
Keys, Jeramie J.	Reg. No. 42,724		
Knearl, Homer L.	Reg. No. 21,197		
Korver, Joshua W.	Reg. No. 51,894		
Kowalchyk, Alan W.	Reg. No. 31,535		
Kowalchyk, Katherine M.	Reg. No. 36,848		
Lamberty, Michael	Reg. No. 50,760		
Larson, James A.	Reg. No. 40,443		

In addition, I also hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection therewith:

Geoff Sutclifee Reg. No. 36,348 M. Todd Mitchem Reg. No. 40,731

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant & Gould P.C. to the contrary.

I understand that the execution of this document, and the grant of a power of attorney, does not in itself establish an attorney-client relationship between the undersigned and the law firm Merchant & Gould P.C., or any of its attorneys. Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant & Gould P.C. at the address indicated below:

Merchant & Gould P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name Gray	First Given Name James	Second Given Name Harold	
0	Residence	City	State or Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship	
	& Citizenship	Ellijay	Georgia	USA	
1	Mailing	Address	City	State & Zip Code/Country	
	Address	4545 Gates Chapel Road	Ellijay	Georgia 30540 / USA	
Signature of Inventor 201: Ames A Day James Harold Frag Date: 12/01/03					

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2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name Brothers	First Given Name Thomas	Second Given Name Jefferson	
0	Residence & Citizenship	City Gainesville	State or Foreign Country Georgia	Country of Citizenship USA	
2	Mailing Address	Address 5769 Ridgewater Drive	City Gainesville	State & Zip Code/Country Georgia 30506 / USA	
Sign	nature of Inventor 2	Immas When	n Anth Date:	10/03	

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